www.themorningnewsaruba.com · themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com

Friday, November 30, 2012

# THE SUIT OF SOURCE FOR SOURCE FOR

• Quality vehicles; economy and compact cars, intermediate and four-wheel drives with air conditioning.
• Attractive daily & weekly rates.
• Free hotel pick up & drop off.
• Courteous on-time service.

Offices at:

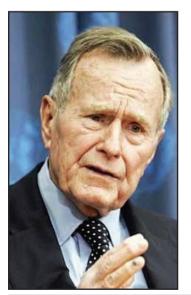
Airport: 5:00 am to 11:00 pm
Hotel: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
Camacuri: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

REE

# Bush senior hospitalized for bronchitis

Tel. 582-8600 • Fax. 582-7212
E-mail: budgetaruba@setarnet.aw - www.budgetaruba.com

"AN INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED BUDGET SYSTEM LICENSEE"



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Former US president George H.W. Bush has been hospitalized in Texas because of complications from bronchitis, a hospital spokeswoman said yesterday.

Bush, who is 88, was in stable condition at Methodist Hospital in Houston and is expected to be released within 72 hours, the spokeswoman, Stephanie Asin, told AFP.

She declined to say exactly when Bush had been hospitalized, saying only that he has been "in and out" of the facility for treatment of complications related to his bronchitis.



# A super grand opening for Super Food



Aruba's largest and most luxurious market, and possible in the Caribbean, Super Food officially opened their doors yesterday morning. Prime Minister Mike Eman and owner Jack Bult cut the ribbon. Shoppers were eagerly lined up outside the market, ready to check the opening week specials, and the low prices promised with the new energy-efficient building, where savings on energy costs are passed on to the consumers.

The long-anticipated opening is taking place in the market's tenth year of operation. The small ceremony included a demonstration of the deep connection the owners have with community affairs. Three foundations, Imeldahoff Children's SABA, the agency that runs 4 homes for the elderly on Aruba, and TortugaAruba, which protects and preserves the island's turtle population, were each the recipients of 5,000 Aruban florin donations.

Continued on page 4







# Shopping nights & Sinterklaas Happening in Oranjestad's main street.

free delivery in hotel area

for orders over § 30-

ORANJESTAD -- MAMBO -Aruba's main street merchants association - together with the Aruban government invites one and all to rediscover Oranjestad's main shopping street during the month of December.

Tomorrow, December 1, MAMBO will have its first holiday season shopping day combined with a shopping night starting from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. All businesses are well stocked with merchandise for the Holiday Season. There will be entertainment by gaita groups, Sinterklaas will visit and there will be fun activities for the kids.

Tomorrow, the entertainment schedule is is as follows: At 1 p.m. – Gaita Sensacionales at the CMB Bank and Gaita Katatumbo at Benneton; at 3 p.m. Gaita Sabroso at Djiespie's Place and Gaita Autentico at Aruba Trading.

any

Sinterklaas and his Swarte Pieten will visit all the establishments in the main street starting at 3 p.m.

Every following Saturday, December 8, 15, and 22, will be a special shopping day. Also on Sunday, December 23, all businesses will be open for shopping from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. providing an extra chance for some last minute shopping.

The beautification and renovation project of the main street continues as planned. Only a very few establishments are without pavement, but soon is will be completely accessible.

# Closure of crossing Waterweg and Kruisweg/Caya Betico Croes

ORANJESTAD – The Department of Public Works (DOW) informs motorists and pedestrians that due to renovation works in the main street, the crossing of Waterweg and Kruisweg/Caya Betico Croes will be closed as of today, Friday, November 30. The crossing will be closed for all traffic from tonight at 7:00 p.m. until Monday, December 7, 2012. There will be traffic signs and barricades to redirect motorists. DOW asks for everyone's understanding and patience and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause. DOW also asks all motorists to NOT attempt to use this road during the abovementioned period.

Sunday KOFFIE MORGEN Slot Tournament \$1000,- Cash Prizes

Monday Cool Raffle Awg 1000,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day

Tuesday Cool Raffle Awg 1000,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day

Wednesday Raffle AWG 500,- Cool Casino - LADIES NIGHT

Thursday Cool Raffle Awg 1000,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day

Friday BlackJack Tournament \$500,-

Saturday KOFFIE MORGEN Cool Raffle Awg 1500,- Triple Points all day



Management reserves the right to discontinue this promotion at any time

# As of Monday 2013 vehicle number plate taxes can be paid

ORANJESTAD -- As of Monday, December 3rd the public can begin paying for their 2013 number plates at the Tax Bureau. Customers can pay either at the bank or at the Tax Offices.

Breakfast entree! Burgers, Fries.. & More!

The Tax Bureau notifies the general public, however, that it is possible to pay for and collect these plates only if the address of the person is correctly registered at the Tax Bureau. To collect the plates, the customer must show proof of payment and proof of valid insurance valid as of January 3, 2013.

For 2013, the number

For 2013, the number plate colors are an orange background with white letters.

For specific information relating to the payment and collection of these new plates, the customer should call the Tax Bureau at Tel. 522-7423 ext. 679 or 713.

Payment can be made either at the Offices in Camacuri or in San Nicolas, Santa Cruz, Savaneta or Paradera. Hence, either at the head office in Camacuri or at any of the auxiliary offices mentioned here. Payment can be made either in cash, via debit card (maestro), bank check or cashier's check. They will not accept personal checks for payment, however.

### For payment, the customer must present:

- **1.** Proof of vehicle registation,
- **2.** Proof of payment of 2012, valid permits for number plates under B, TX, V, O and T designations.

And, these can be paid only at the Tax Bureau. This is because these designations must be verified to ascertain if their permits are currently valid. In any event that the permit is not valid these cus-



tomers will be directed to DOPV to have this rectified.

Any customer who still owes on 2012 number plates will have to pay off that debt before paying for 2013.

### Paying via the bank has its restrictions:

1. Can only pay for 2013. Not permitted to pay for multiple years in one transaction

2. Must pay for the full year of 2013. Not possible to pay for half or quarter year.

3. Must have paid 2012 in full before payment for 2013 will be accepted.

**4.** Number plates with TX, T, O, V, designations cannot pay at the bank.

5. Not possible to pay for two or more number plates in one transaction.

**6.** Paying via internet, note that the option to "bill payment" is not possible. "Funds

Transfer' to the Tax Bureau is possible.

#### Collect number Plates:

As of December 3rd number plates can be collected at the Camacuri Tax Bureau. Do bring along your proof of payment and valid insurance documents bearing the original seal of the insurance company. Uninsured vehicles will not receive new 2013 number plates.

Contact the Bureau for information on paying for 10 or more number plates collectively. They have a special service for those with this need.



### Lunch Buffet Saturday - Sunday

12:00 - 3 p.m.

#### **Dinner** Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944



FIFE NOV 30



Balloon Raffle \$500

Ins. \$15- Re-Buy \$10
Live Band 7 pm - 2 am
Climax

Located within the RIU PALACE HOTEL

J.E. Irausquin BLVD.79 Palm Beach - PH.297.5280993. ext. 981

# First brick laid for tram terminal in Oranjestad



Placing the first brick with Julo Derricks

Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman joined Minister of Infrastructure, Immigration and Environment, Benny Sevinger on



For info call: 5875010 Email: sales@laquintaaruba.net Website: www.laquintaaruba.net Wednesday afternoon, November 28, in laying the first brick for the tram terminal service for Oranjestad. The trolleys, which are electric and run on solar power, are on the island, awaiting completion of the tracks and terminal.

This massive project, years in production, is finally seeing an end with the construction of the terminal, which is adjacent to the parking lot behind the main bus terminal. It is situated to facilitate service to cruise ship passengers and overnight visitors bussing into



Prime Minister Eman, Minister Sevinger with construction team

the island's capital.

Also present for the informal ceremony was Gene Boekhoudt of Douhsar, the company handling the construction, and the Director of the Department of Public Works, (DOW) Jossy Figaroa. He expressed his confidence in the Infrateam and admiration for the work of Arubus in managing this project.

The tram service will be free, taking passengers from the western outskirts of the town to the main street, Caya Gilberto Françoise "Betico" Croes, and back, with stops by

major historical sites. This will also alleviate traffic in town, as shoppers can park behind the bus station and use the tram.

Prime Minister expressed the importance of beautifying Oranjestad and providing this service to its important historical and cultural sights. "We will present to island visitors an island with a distinctly Caribbean character, but still, progressing technologically and showing our advancement and sophistication."

The tram station is located in the shadow of what was the former DOW headquarters,

empty now since 2009. Mr. Figaroa also announced that within six months, about the time they expect the tram terminal to be completed, they will begin renovating and refurbishing the former DOW building to eventually house the main Census Office. This will afford ample parking and easy access to this very busy and important government office, which now presents something of a problem at its present location in Oranjestad.

Rosalie Klein



# All ages are invited to enjoy a visit with Sinterklaas at Rembrandt Café

The cozy Rembrandt Café in South Beach Centre has a distinctly Dutch ambiance, reminiscent of an authentic pub from the "old country." The coming few days are the height of Sinterklaas season, and both adults and children are invited to celebrate with Rembrandt Café this festive occasion.

The fun begins this Saturday evening at 5:00 PM with a special threecourse menu, including a surprise Sinterklaas beverage, for only \$27.50. The venerable gentleman

and his Swarte Pieten will be on hand to welcome "all good boys and girls." Great live entertainment begins at 11:00 PM with po-pular local band Mystical Connection, continuing until the wee hours.

From Sunday on, island children are invited to come to Rembrandt during regular hours from noon to closing, to drop of a shoe as is traditional of the holiday; this will continue through Tuesday. On Wednesday December 5, beginning at 2:00 PM, Sinterklaas and his Swarte Pieten will be at Rembrandt Café to greet all the youngsters who



have deposited a shoe, returning it to them filled with special treats. The restaurant is hosting an afternoon-long party for all those retrieving their footwear, in honor of Sinterklaas's feast day.

Aruba and Rembrandt Café have a great affection for their Dutch traditions, of which the annual visit of Sinterklaas is a particularly treasured event. Enjoy it fully with Rembrandt staff and management, who aim to make it a memorable time for all their patrons. They know you never get to old to enjoy a visit from Sinterklaas!

Rosalie Klein



# A super grand opening for Super Food

Continued from page 1



When designing and building the new market, the environment was a key factor in every aspect of design. The shade roof, which will be covered solar charges, will drastically lower energy costs, and the management is determined this is reflected in lower prices on the inventory.

The bright, airy market sports a very attractive and affordable restaurant called Jack's Café, and the Super Food Plaza will be filled with various shops, a branch of Aruba Bank and a Coldwell Banker real estate office.

Known previously as offering discounted merchandise to only its card carrying members, the discounted sale prices on the various specials are now available to all shoppers, whether or not members.

The Prime Minister took a quick tour of the new market, and complimented Jack Bult on his faith in the island's economy and setting an example for other businesses to be environmentally aware, as well as his community involvement.

Rosalie Klein





### Ranbaxy recalls generic version of cholesterol drug Lipitor from US market



ORANJESTAD -- The Department of Medicine Inspection announced that the drug Arvovastatin, a generic version of Lipitor, has been recalled from the US market. Arvovastin is manufactured by Ranbaxy.

Ranbaxy is recalling Arvovastin to investigate the possibility of small pieces of glass in some batches of the medicine.

Even though Arvovastin is not available on Aruba, the Department of Medicine Inspections feels it important to advice citizens of the recall.

For more information readers may contact the **Department of Medicine** Inspection via e-mail info@ivgaruba.gov.aw.







### PANDORA™ STORE

Paseo Herencia • Noord, Aruba TEL: 297.586.5625



Havenstraat #25 • Oranjestad, Aruba TEL: 297.583.0147 • FAX: 297.582.6440



90-92 L.G Smith Blvd. • Oranjestad, Aruba TEL: 297.582.9544 • FAX: 297. 582.9664



Free Gift with Purchase For the Month of December

Receive a PANDORA holiday ornament (a \$30 US retail value) with your purchase of \$125 or more of PANDORA jewelry.\* \*Good while supplies last, limit one per customer See our store for details

# **Department of Labor now fully** automated



ORANJESTAD -- The Department of Labor and Investigation (DAO) has just finalized work on the upgrading of their computer system. More or less 50 computers and a server with an extensive capacity and with the very latest software have been put into production so as

to offer a much better service to the Aruban community.

DAO is the department charged with resolving conflicts between workers and employers. They also take care of inspection on the work floor and in controlling businesses to ensure they comply with the obligations stipulated by law.

The computer upgrading project was performed by the DIA with Ing. Gregory Trim, as leader of the project. Other members of the team were: Carl Dijkhoff, Suzette Ling, Hoon Ying Chai, and Liria Fi-

Special thanks for getting the project up and running and now fully functional went to the government. The government was expeditious in getting the funds approved and for approving the entire process in a very short time.

DIA intends to upgrade more departments in the government in the upcoming weeks. This will improve all the government's apparatuses and provide much better service to the entire community, which fits in with the management philosophy of the government of Aruba.

# **Edmund and Dolores Heser** honored at the Tamarijn **Beach Resort**



Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple as Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba. The honorees are Mr. Edmund and Mrs. Dolores Heser. Edmund and Dolores are loyal guests of the Tamarijn Beach Resort, and they love Aruba very much. The certificate was presented to them by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Bradley and Carolina from the activities department of the Tamarijn Beach Resort



### International news

## Ecuadoran villagers drag Chevron to Canadian court

TORONTO (AFP) - A 19-year court battle that resulted in a staggering US\$18.3-billion judgment from an Ecuadoran court against Chevron last year moved to Canadayesterday as the plaintiffs seek to collect.

Écuadoran villagers who brought the original lawsuit over decades of oil pollution in the Amazon are asking an Ontario Superior Court to force Chevron to hand over CAN\$12 billion in Canadian assets held by subsidiaries.

The oil company, which has refused to pay, alleging fraud and bribery was used to obtain the ruling, says its Canadian subsidiaries are wholly independent and have nothing to do with this case.

After two days of hearings

this week, the judge is expected to decide in January whether to recognize the Ecuadoran ruling.

Chevron got tangled up in the legal quagmire when in 2000 it purchased Texaco, which operated in the Lago Agrio region of Ecuador starting in the 1970s, leaving what the plaintiffs claim is an environmental mess in the Amazon jungle.

Chevron contends that Texaco paid all of the required clean-up costs before exiting the country in the 1990s.

The plaintiffs have also attempted to collect on the massive judgment in Brazil and Argentina, where Chevron has operations.

# French court clears Continental on Concorde crash

VERSAILLES (AFP) -- A French court yesterday cleared Continental Airlines and one of its employees of criminal responsibility for the July 2000 crash of an Air France Concorde.

The US airline had been convicted of involuntary homicide in 2010 after a court ruled

the crash was caused by a piece of metal that had fallen from one of its planes.

In its ruling, an appeal court overturned the conviction but upheld an order that Continental should pay one million euros (\$1.3 million) to Air France for "damage to its image".

# Assange's lung condition 'not urgent'

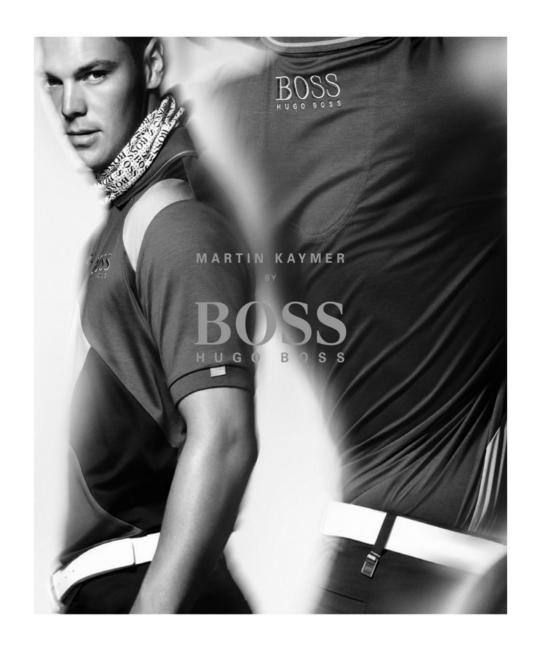
LONDON (AFP) - Ecuador's embassy in London published a clarification yesterday about the health of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, who has been living there for five months, saying there was no urgent problem.

Ambassador Ana Alban, the South American country's envoy to Britain, told reporters in Quito on Wednesday that Assange "has a chronic lung condition that could worsen at any time."

A statement posted on the London embassy's website today said: "In reference to reported comments of the Ambassador Ana Alban, Julian Assange does not have an urgent medical condition.

"We continue to seek the assurances from the UK and Swedish governments to enable him to live a normal life, free from the fear of extradition to the United States.

"The government of Ecuador requests that the UK government undertakes to guarantee any future humanitarian assistance that Julian Assange may need respecting the protection granted to him by Ecuador."



Emmastraat 3, Plaza Margarita Downtown 9:30am-6:30pm (Mon thru Sat) Phone: (297)588-5406

# New page in Syria war as rebel missiles hit aircraft

TOURMANIN (AFP) - In less than 24 hours, rebels used surface-to-air missiles to strike down two aircraft in northern Syria, marking a turning point in their war with forces of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Since the end of July, the Syrian regime has used fighter jets to try to suppress a growing insurgency. The air force has frequently bombarded rebelheld areas across the country, causing high casualties.

But on Wednesday morning, rebels shot down a warplane in the northern province of Aleppo, an AFP reporter said.

The warplane crashed after it was hit by a massive explosion, a tower of thick black smoke rising into the sky, said the reporter, who was just a few kilometers away.

The previous day insurgents had downed an army helicopter for the first time.

"It's a turning point," said Riad Kahwaji, expert at the Institute for Near East and Gulf Military Analysis (INEGMA).

"If the Syrian air force starts losing several aircraft every day, that will be a signicant turning point because the regime will lose its superiority and will no longer be able to use its main means of delivering strong fire power effectively," Kahwaji told AFP.

The jet fell on an olive grove a kilometer (less than a mile) away from the village of Tourmanin, north of the embattled city of Aleppo.

Yesterday, the Washington Post, citing Western and Middle Eastern sources, reported that the rebels have obtained up to 40 shoulder-fired antiaircraft missiles.

Some of the missiles were supplied in the past weeks by Qatar, the newspaper reported. Wednesday's attack, claimed by a rebel Free Syrian Army group, occurred near the Sheikh Suleiman base, the last garrison in government hands between Syria's second city and the Turkish border.

Dozens of rebels rushed to the scene minutes after the plane was shot down, crying out "Allahu Akbar!" (God is Greatest).

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a watchdog that relies on a network of activists and medics on the ground, also said the jet had been brought down with a missile.

Rebels in Tourmanin said insurgent members of the Ahrar Daret Ezza group, whose name means the Free People of Daret Ezza, a nearby village, were responsible for the strike.

The jet was the second government aircraft to have been shot down by rebels using missiles in less than 24 hours.



### International news

### Colombia negotiator says 'progress' in talks with rebels

HAVANA (AFP) - Progress has been made in peace talks between Colombia's government and FARC rebels, Bogota's chief negotiator said yesterday in his first comments since negotiations began 10 days ago.

"I can say, as reflected in the joint statements, that we have made progress in accordance with our expectations," Humberto de la Calle told reporters, as the two sides try to negotiate an end to Latin America's longest running guerrilla war.

Colombian negotiators traveled yesterday to Bogota to consult with government officials, de la Calle said, while Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia rebel delegates said they will remain in Hayana.

Talks will resume next week and address agrarian reform, the parties said in a joint statement.

Both sides also agreed to open a website -- www. mesadeconversaciones.com.co -- that, starting December 7, will include joint statements and allow for "virtual discussion."

Following a preliminary round of talks in October in Norway, negotiations began in Havana on November 19 with the FARC declaring a unilateral two-month ceasefire.

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos however said that military operations against the guerrillas would continue until a deal is brokered.

Both sides have expressed confidence that an end to the decades-long conflict that has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives is within reach.

# US Senate panel passes email privacy measure WASHINGTON (AFP) - A

Senate panel yesterday approved a bill boosting privacy protections for email and other electronic communications in a vote after an uproar over a probe that toppled the CIA di-

The measure, which if enacted would require police to obtain a warrant in most cases to access email accounts, drew immediate praise from privacy activists.

The proposal sponsored by Senate Judiciary chairman Patrick Leahy had been pending for some months in the panel. But it garnered increased attention after an investigation that prompted the resignation of CIA chief David Petraeus following a search of email records.

Leahy said in a tweet after the committee approved the measure by voice vote that it would "strengthen email privacy protections" and was a "Rare step 4ward 4 public's privacy rights."

Gregory Nojeim of the Center for Democracy and Technology said the bill offered a historic step for pri-

"Our privacy laws are woefully outdated given the rapid advance of technology," he

He said the measure "keeps the government from turning cloud providers into a one-stop convenience store for government investigators and requires government investigators to do for online communications what they already do in the offline world: Get a warrant."

The American Civil Liberties Union also hailed the move

"This is an important gain for privacy. We are very happy that the committee voted that all electronic content like emails, photos and other communications held by companies like Google and Facebook should be protected with a search warrant," said Chris Calabrese, ACLU legislative counsel.

"We believe law enforcement should use the same standard to search your inbox that they do to search your home."



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Police said yesterday they arrested 107 people in a month-long anti-crime crackdown in Brazil's most populous city focused on the notorious slum of Paraisopolis.

Sao Paulo state Governor Geraldo Alckmin and his new security chiefs yesterday toured the slum, where more than 500 state military police were deployed in an attempt to end robberies, drug trafficking and weapons sales.

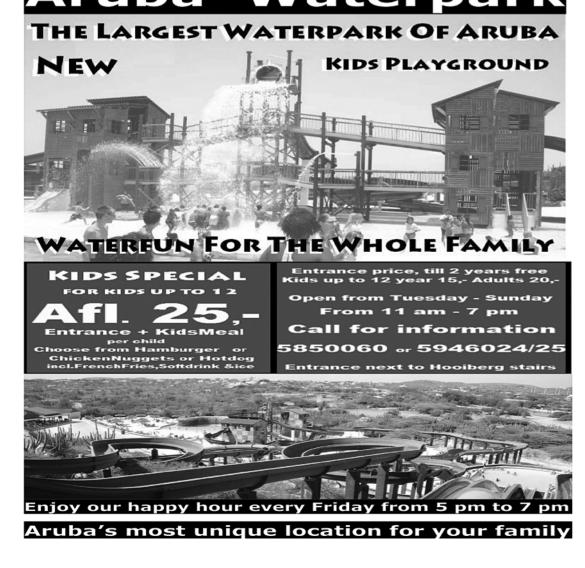
The high-profile operation was launched in response to a wave of violence linked to an undeclared war between the state's military police force and

a powerful prison gang known as the PCC, or First Command of the Capital.

More than 300 people have been killed in Sao Paulo over the past month, with much of the violence blamed on prison gangs seeking revenge against police for anti-drug operations or tougher living conditions inside jails.

Nearly 100 police personnel have been murdered across Sao Paulo state this year, according to official figures.

In a related development, Human Rights Watch on yesterday appealed to Brazilian states to curb all unlawful killings by their police forces.





\* Certain conditions are applicable. FCCA reserves the right of approval.

Case dropped against Tunisian woman raped by police TUNIS (AFP) - Tunisian authorities on Thursday dropped a case of possible indecency against a young woman allegedly raped by two policemen, her lawyer said, adding the accused officers will now face charges. The 27-year-old rape victim faced possible indecency charges with her fiance based on the testimony of the alleged rapists, policemen who say they took the couple by surprise in an "immoral position" just before the attack purportedly took place. A judicial source has previously said that the police had taken the couple by surprise as they were having sex in their car. Two of them then took the woman to the police car, where they raped her, while a third restrained and tried to extort money from her fiance, the source added. The case sparked a storm of protest in Tunisia, with NGOs, media and opposition figures saying the proceedings had transformed the victim into the accused and reflected the Islamist-led government's policy towards women.

### **Health & Living**

### This weekend's schedule of "Bus di Salud"

IBiSA – Instituto Biba Saludabel y Activo (Live Healthy and Active Institute) wishes to share this weekend's schedule of the "Bus di Salud"

During the hours the health bus is stationed in mentioned districts, inhabitants of the vicinity are welcome to come and visit the bus, learn of the different services the bus offers and also take advantage of the opportunity to check one's blood sugar, pressure and weight for free. *Friday, November 30* 

At General Store's parking lot at Camacuri: From 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

Saturday, December 1

"Bus di Salud" will be present at the "women's Race" a special activity for all women from 4 – 6 p.m. All those present can take advantage of the services provided by the health bus.

IBISA keeps on working to make the Aruban community aware on the importance of taking care of our health, while at the same tie promoting a healthy lifestyle thru being active and moving.

# Japanese firm develops health monitor for dogs

TOKYO (AFP) - Worried the family dog is too chubby?

Japanese information technology giant Fujitsu says it may have the solution with a new health management service that lets owners keep a close eye on their pet's exercise regimen through a pedometer attached to its collar.

The "Wandant" counts how many steps the pooch took during its latest outing, with the data then available online for pet owners' perusal, Fujitsu "Wan" is Japanese for "woof", while "dant" comes from the word "pendant".

The device also measures the dog's temperature, while owners can use an online diary to track how much their dog is eating, its weight and "stool conditions".

"The data are presented graphically on a custom website that makes trends in the dog's activities easy to understand at a glance," according to the firm.

# Most HIV-positive US youth don't know they're sick

CHICAGO (AFP) - More than a quarter of new HIV infections in the United States strike young people aged 13 to 24 and 60 percent of those don't know they're sick, health officials said.

An estimated 12,200 youth were infected with HIV in 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said in a new study.

Young gay and bisexual men and African American youths were hit hardest, and the study found a variety of reasons for risky behavior that increases the risk of contracting the virus.

Only 13 percent of high school students and 35 percent of 18 to 24-year-olds have been checked for HIV despite recommendations for routine testing.

The failure to test has contributed to the fact that young people are far less likely to get and stay in treatment programs that can keep the virus in check, help them stay healthy

and reduce the risk of further transmission, according to the CDC.

The CDC estimates that about 50,000 people are infected with HIV each year in the United States and that youth make up seven percent of the 1.1 million Americans living with HIV.

Nearly 60 percent of new infections among youth occur in American Americans, while 20 percent are among Hispanic youth and 20 percent among white youth. African Americans make up just 12.6 percent of the overall population.

Young men were also disproportionately affected, representing 83 percent of those infected.

This was primarily because of sharply higher rates among gay and bisexual males who were less likely to use condoms, and more likely to have multiple partners and drink alcohol or do drugs prior to having sex.



### Sci-Tech

# Ford Fusion wins LA car show green prize



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The 2013 Ford Fusion was named Green Car of the Year Thursday at the LA Auto Show, as the US carmaker boasted having gone from "laggard to leader" in the environmentally-friendly vehicle market. The car, which Ford says will get up to the equivalent of 100 miles (160 kilometers) per gallon (mpg), beat a shortlist also including the Toyota Prius c, the Mazda CX-5 SKYACTIV, the 2013 Dodge Dart Aero and the Ford C-MAX. The 2013 Fusion will be available with five different fuel systems, including three gas engines with varying fuel efficiency technology, a hybrid which gets 47 mpg and a plug-in hybrid expected to get over 100 mpg equivalent. Carmakers have for years been trying to introduce more fuel-efficient models with electric and hybrid electric-gas power systems, but take-up has been slow, hampered notably by the cost compared to traditional gas vehicles



SYDNEY (AFP) - A huge red algal bloom along vast stretches of southeastern Australia's coastline Thursday resulted in beaches being closed and turned swathes of usually pristine ocean milky pink. The algae, noctiluca scintillans, forced the closure of Sydney's Bondi beach and a number of neighbouring inlets earlier this week, and government officials said it had now spread along the fringes of two states. Aerial footage shot over neighbouring Victoria state showed huge blooms of the oily pink scum off Bells Beach, a popular surfing spot, and Lorne, south of Melbourne. Fisherman were advised not to eat anything caught in an affected area as a precaution. Commonly known as "sea sparkle" due to its bluish glow at night, noctiluca scintillans blooms typically occur as a result of currents bringing cold, nutrient-rich water to the surface.

### Scientists record most powerful quasar blast ever

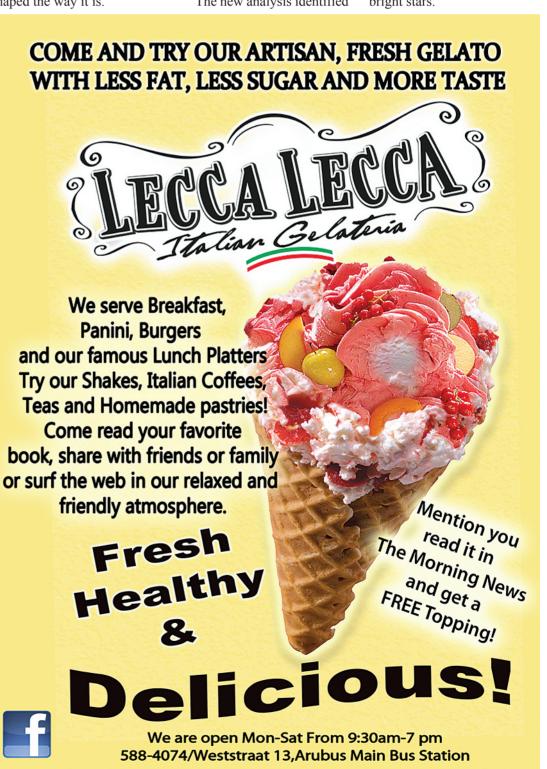
SANTIAGO (AFP) - US astronomers have detected the most powerful blast from a quasar ever recorded, offering the first proof of important theories about why the universe is shaped the way it is.

The beam of energy, detected by the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope, based in Chile, was at least five times larger than any observed before.

The new analysis identified

a huge flow of energy -- two trillion times as powerful as the Sun and 400 times more

Quasars are celestial bodies that look like extraordinarily bright stars.



#### **PICKLES**









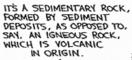




#### CALVIN and HOBBES













SALUTE TO THE DUKE

#### FREE Coverage on our website:

#### www.themorningnewsaruba.com

#### ACROSS

- 1. Peanut butter container
- 4. File identifier 7. Incitement
- 11. Pub drink
- 12. Tuscany river
- 13. Corn cake \_ and
- 14. breakfast (informal inn)
- 15. 1950 John
- Wayne film 17. Occurrence during football practice
- 19. Lay down the lawn
- 20. Wedding
- chapel chorus 21. Hasty escape

- 23. ". Come Back"
- 25. Chastised 29. SSS
- classification
- 30. Crazed
- 31. Platter
- 32. Cold wind
- 34. Ill-mannered
- 35. Thousands of years
- 36. Burn-soothing plant
- 37. Smash sign 40. Mass transit
- customer 44. "The .
- Express" (1931 John Wayne serial) 46. Cinematic

- rabble-rouser Norma
- \_ in the Life'
- (Beatles) 48. Increased
- 49. Tax agcy.
- 50. Editor's
- extraction 51. Generic
- addressee
- 52. Blasting substance: abbr.

#### DOWN

- 1. Uppercut preceders
- 2. A Baldwin
- 3. 1948 John
  - Wayne film 4. Decorates

6. Bewildered 7. Health retreat

5. Wild ox of

Celebes

- 8. Soprano Lily
- 9. Destroy
- 10. Hollowstemmed plant
- 12. Museum suit 16. Kind of guard
- or admiral
- 18. Brainstorm 22. "Women in
- prison" film heavy
- 23. First name in horror films
- 24. Sean Lennon's mom 25. Obstruct
- 26. 1969 John
- Wayne film 27. Make Mom happy
- 28. Pigment
- 30. Terrorizes 33. Kachina ceremony devotees
- 34. Soak 36. Onetime SAG president Ed
- 37. Food fish 38. Overbearing
- hvgiene 41. Author of "The Square
- Egg" 42. Acquire honestly
- 43. Take a nap 45. Bakery request

# DRUG STORES OPEN AFTER HOURS **NOV 24 - DEC 01** O'stad: 'Botica Central N.V.' - S.N. 'Botica San Lucas'

#### **Center for Hemodialysis**

Posada Clinic Aruba Tel.580-2840/Pager 127-2446

#### INFORMATION

Telephone 118

**Twelve Step Meetings** 24 hours helpline 583-8989

#### Fellowship Clinic S.N.

Free treatment of Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Anonymity guaranteed Tel. 584-5440

#### **SOS TELEAYUDO SOS**

Telephone Helpline 583-1190 Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn. Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

#### **CAS MARIE**

Alzheimer's Day Care Center Tel: 5696910

#### **Important** Telephone Numbers

#### **HOSPITAL**

Horacio Oduber Hospital Tel.587-4300

#### **EMERGENCY**

Telephone 911

### **POLICE HDQS**

Telephone 100

#### TAXI C.V. TAS

587-1998, 587-5900 In Oranjestad: Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604 582-5447 In San Nicolas Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602 professional taxi services

Tel. 588-0035 **Al Anon Meetings** Mondays 6-7pm Sabana Liber 8 in Noord

# Tel: 5673356 / 5838989 Sudoku

	1		2	50	4			
	2				9	4		
	8		6	5				1
7		3						4
1.		4				2	ă.	
2						5		6
5				4	6		9	
		6	5				7	
			9		3		4	

	5	t	9	3	1	6	2	1	8
>	3	L	I	8	2	5	9	t	6
9	7	6	8	9	t	L	I	ε	ς
OLUT	9	ε	ς	I	1	Þ	8	6	7
3	L	8	7	S	6	ε	t	9	I
0	Þ	1	6	7	9	8	٤	5	L
S	I	2	3	1	S	9	6	8	t
	8	S	t	6	ε	I	L	7	9
	6	9	L	t	8	7	5	I	3
	-	-	-	-		_			

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

1	2	3			4	5	6		7	8	9	10
11				12					13		1	+
14				15	1			16				+
17	1		18				1	1		19		+
		20	1				21	1	22			
23	24		T			25		1		26	27,	28
29	$\vdash$	1			30		1		31		+	+
32				33				34			+	+
			35		1		36			-		
37	38	39		40	1	41		1		-	42	43
44	+	1	45				1			46	+	+
47	1	1	1		48	1	1	1		49	1	+
50	+	1	-		51	1	-			52	+	+



www.barneysaruba.com Palm beach 21 A Tel :+297- 586 5420 Closed on Monday's, FOR PRIVATE PARTY'S CALL!

#### **FINANCE**

# Fitch chops Argentina from Sandy rating 3 notches NEW YORK (AFP) - Super-

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Bond rater Fitch chopped Argentina's rating Tuesday by three notches to CC, deep in junk territory, saying it expects Buenos Aires to default after a US court ordered it to repay old debt.

The downgrade "reflects Fitch's view that a default by Argentina is probable," the agency said.

The downgrade came after a New York judge ruled on November 21 that Argentina must repay holders of some \$1.3 billion worth of bonds the country already defaulted on 11 years ago.

The judge said that Argentina would have to repay the bondholders by December 15, concurrent with the country's obligation to pay out another \$3 billion on previously restructured debt.

Fitch said it did not expect

Buenos Aires, already struggling with deteriorating state finances, would make the payments.

Argentina has refused to pay the debt, saying the bonds are held by predatory hedge funds which did not take part in an earlier bond swap with investors to resolve the 2001 sovereign default.

After the November 21 ruling, Economy Minister Hernan Lorenzino said at a news conference said the country would appeal the decision.

Fitch said it will monitor how the case evolves and the Argentine government's response in the coming weeks, but said a missed payment would constitute a default.

Fitch added that the downgrade reflects the "sustained deterioration" of Argentina's fi-

# Fed official sees only slight GDP hit from Sandy

NEW YORK (AFP) - Superstorm Sandy, which battered the Northeast a month ago, should not significantly slow the US economy in the fourth quarter, a key Federal Reserve official said yesterday.

New York Fed president William Dudley said he expected the storm that struck New York City and the surrounding region would have "a modest negative effect" on growth in the October-December quarter.

"It is impossible to calibrate this precisely at this juncture, but I would guess this would be in the region of 0.25 to 0.50 of a percentage point," Dudley said in a speech at Pace University in New York, according to the prepared text.

The powerful and deadly hurricane that struck in late October caused massive damage in the coastal region, with widespread power outages and flooding disrupting services and supplies, such as fuel, food and transportation.

Dudley said that some of the negative effects already seen in recent industrial production and other indicators, had been offset in part by additional economic activity spurred by the disaster.

For example, demand had increased for portable generators during the power outages.

In addition, reconstruction likely would spur somewhat stronger economic growth than otherwise would have been expected, he said.

Economic studies show that natural disasters in advanced economies usually have negligible impact on longer term GDP growth, Dudley noted.

"Given the resilience of the US economy, I expect the long-run effects of Sandy to be similarly small," he said.

The government announced

yesterday that US growth in the third quarter was stronger than previously thought -- hitting an annual rate of 2.7 percent instead of the prior estimate of 2.0 percent.

The GDP report, however, showed weakening in key growth drivers, including consumer and business spending, that analysts said pointed to a significant slowdown in the current quarter, to a pace of 1.0-1.5 percent.

Dudley said that even before Sandy struck, growth has been disappointing.

The unemployment rate, currently at 7.9 percent, remains "unacceptably high" amid the slow growth, he said.

"Although the economy continues to expand, we must grow faster if we are to put all of our jobless workers and idle businesses back to work," he said.

# Coins could replace Dollar bills, save US \$5.6 billion

WASHINGTON -- The supercommittee charged with cutting trillions of dollars from the US debt by the end of the year may be able to find at least one relatively smallchange solution in their wallets: replacing the dollar bill with the dollar coin.

The controversial move would phase out paper bills and replace them with a new \$1 coin, increasing production costs at first but saving billions



in the long term.

The Government Accountability Office said that be-

cause coins outlast paper currency (which survive about 42 months), the switch would save about \$5.6 billion over 30 years.



### Taj Mahal Taste of India

Authentic Indian Restaurant on the Island

> Open Mon - Sat Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm Dinner : 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Havenstraat 36, Behind Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

# YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer HAL ERR FRO ODE FRAUD LID WON LENDAHAND DEE GENE ALTER CRIB ALEC HERE VAN NOAH EGO BASE DOS SAGS UNIT

# Clinton: Global economy depends on end to eurozone crisis

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Secretary of State Hillary Clinton called on European leaders yesterday to resolve the eurozone crisis and seek ways to promote growth and jobs, saying the health of the global economy depended on them.

"The eurozone is slipping back into recession as austerity policies take effect. So it's vital to the entire global economy that European leaders move toward policies that promote credible and sustainable growth and create jobs," she said in an address to a Washington think tank.



Current as of: 11/29/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A. Dutch Antilles Canada Britiain Switzerland Netherlands Sweden Denmark Norway Japan (per 10,000)	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
	CAD	1.78	1.80	1.82
	GBP	2.79	2.84	2.90
	CHF	192.02	192.74	193.54
	EUR	229.34	231.43	233.76
	SEK	25.81	26.53	27.33
	DKK	30.06	30.78	31.58
	NOK	30.53	31.25	32.05
	JPY	214.90	216.86	219.04

# 5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$3.99, (\$4.49 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda,



Farmer's or Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of

fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English waywith vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

# Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by



the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there.'

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community

of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas, The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facili-

ties such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

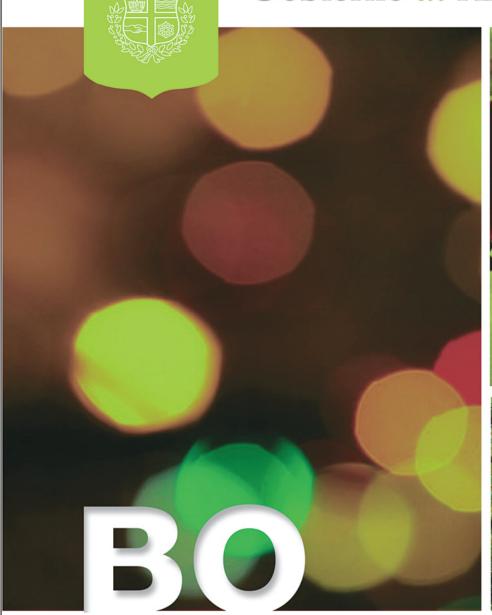
The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the

least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International. the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management depart ment. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: www. goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.









# BARIO

Apreciable habitante di Bario, Gobierno di Aruba tin e placer di Invitabo pa e feria di Pasco den **Bo Bario.** Lo ta bay tin presentacion di Gaita Talentoso, Banda e Motibo, Gaita Autentico y Tipico Kadushi Largo.

Lo tin stands cu benta di: Ayaca, Coecoei Arubiano, Koeki, Drigidek, Cuminda di Pasco, Ham, Kalakuna, Decorashon di Pasco, Quesillo, Sapato, Panja, Asesorionan pa Pasco

Meta di projecto: Crea ambiente di Fin di Aña pa habitantenan den Bario y stimula paz, harmonia y cooperacion entre habitantenan.

Fecha: Diabierna 30 November 2012

Orario: 6.30 pm - 11.00 pm Lugar: Rotonde Pos Chikito

Adopta pa Habitantenan di Pos Chikito



### Football: Bayern out to end losing streak against **Dortmund**



BERLIN (AFP) - Midfielder Toni Kroos has said Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich must end their losing streak against Borussia Dortmund on Saturday after miserable recent league results against the champions.

Bayern extended their lead at the top of the table to ten points on Wednesday with a 2-0 win at Freiburg while Dortmund, who have won the league title for the last two years, lag behind in third and are 11 points adrift.

Bayern managed a 2-1 preseason victory at home to Dortmund in August's Super Cup, but Munich are eager to break their Bundesliga losing streak after losing their last four league matches against Borussia.

"Dortmund are the team with the highest quality after us," said Bayern midfielder Kroos.

'We know they are a strong opponent against whom we have had big problems in the last two years.

"We want to show we can do better against them."

Bayern host Dortmund at Munich's Allianz Arena on Saturday night, but last tasted a league victory over Borussia in February 2010 having failed even to score against Borussia in their last two Bundesliga de-

Dortmund have beaten Bayern home and away in the Bundesliga for the last two seasons, culminating in a humiliating 5-2 victory in May's German Cup final in Berlin



www.sasaki-apartments.com E-mail: sasakiapartments@hotmail.com

## Football: Hiddink still focused as Anzhi face leaders CSKA

MOSCOW (AFP) - Bigspending Anzhi Makhachkala, in the hunt for a new coach at the end of the season, on Sunday have a chance to see how far they have come in a relatively short time when they entertain league leaders CSKA

Anzhi are lying second, three points behind Red Army side CSKA and Hiddink is keeping his mind firmly on the job in hand.

"CSKA are a strong squad, which has already clinched success at domestic and European level," Hiddink said on Thursday. "And they lead the league deservedly.

Anzhi also topped the table not so long ago but we failed to stay there for a long time. And we have plenty of work to do to move to the top again."

CSKA will again be without injured forwards Seydou Doumbia and Tomas Necid as well as Chilean winger Marc

Defending champions Zenit St Petersburg, who are experiencing a difficult time after being handed a technical defeat for their fans' unruly behaviour in the away match with Dynamo Moscow, will face another Moscow club, Spartak, today

The old rivals both represented Russia in the Champions League but both have dropped out after the group stage.

Spartak, meanwhile, sacked Spanish manager Unai Emery earlier this week after a 5-1 thrashing at the hands of city rivals Dynamo.

General manager Valery Karpin, who led Spartak to the runners-up spot last season, took over the nine-time Russia's champions again as an interim coach.

Spartak will be without skipper Sergei Parshivlyuk, midfielder Aiden McGeady and goalkeeper Artem Rebrov.

Wing back Yevgeny Makeev is also uncertain for the match after suffering a minor knee injury against Dynamo.

Zenit have ordered 5,000 tickets for their fans, who will have to submit valid passport details in order to secure a place in the ground in an attempt to avoid a repetition of the crowd trouble which cost the club three points against Dynamo.

Meanwhile, Dynamo, who are showing serious progress under Romanian manager Dan Petrescu, will take on Rubin Kazan in a match to be played behind closed doors, also as a result of the crowd trouble against Zenit.

Dynamo's Russian international striker Alexander Kokorin is doubtful after suffering a minor injury in the match with Spartak.

#### **Fixtures:** Friday

FC Krasnodar v Kuban Krasnodar, Spartak Moscow v Zenit St Petersburg

#### Saturday

Volga Nizhny Novgorod v Grozny, Alania Terek Vladikavkaz v Lokomotiv Moscow, Dynamo Moscow v Rubin Kazan

### **SPORTS**

#### London return for Scolari with Brazil

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Luiz Felipe Scolari will get the chance to polish up a reputation dented by a disastrous spell at Chelsea as his first match in charge of Brazil after Thursday's reappointment will be against England at Wemb-

"Great. There's no better scenario than facing England," said the 64vear-old after taking the reins of the Selecao for a second time barely a week after the sacking of predecessor Mano Menezes.

"I am really fond of the English people and it's great to go back and play at Wembley," said Scolari, who knocked England out of the 2002 World Cup in the quarter-finals on the way to lifting the trophy.

The match will be a February 6 friendly and gives Scolari the chance to make a return to the capital and show that his illfated eight months in charge at Stamford Bridge which ended in the sack in February 2009 was a blip.

He has a strong record against England as he was in charge of the Portugal side which dumped the Three Lions out of Euro 2004 and also the 2006 World Cup.





# **NBA:** Tough day for Rockets ends with loss to Thunder

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma (AFP) - A tough day for the Houston Rockets ended with a tough NBA loss to the Oklahoma City Thunder on Wednesday.

In a show of support for coach Kevin McHale, Rockets team members had flown to Minnesota for the funeral of his daughter, Alexandra "Sasha" McHale, who died on Saturday after a lengthy battle with the auto-immune disease lupus.

From there they went to Oklahoma City, where the Thunder's Kevin Durant scored 37 points in a 120-98

### THEMORNINGNEWS

Your source for local news in English

Ingrid Does Manager

Rosalinda Maduro Chandette Richardson Editors

Marline v.d. Linden Asst. to the editors

Rosalie Klein Reporter/Photographer

Yanis Garcia

Sales Representatives

Local news provider for visitaruba.com aruba.com caribseek.com

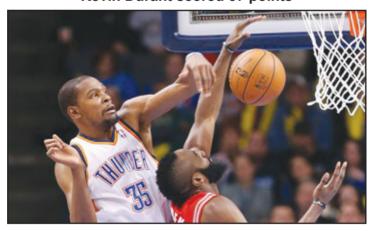
Int'l News provider: Agence France Presse (AFP)

Printed by Diario N.V.

Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com



**Kevin Durant scored 37 points** 



triumph over emotionally depleted Houston.

It was a particularly rough night for James Harden, who scored 17 points on just 3-of-16 shooting in his first return to Oklahoma City since he was traded to Houston in October.

Serge Ibaka added 23 points for the Thunder, who have won six of their last seven games. Harden said it was the first time he had seen his former coaches and team-mates since the trade.

Those feelings didn't improve much as the game went on, but Harden noted before the contest that in terms of the Rockets' season, the contest was no more important than any other.

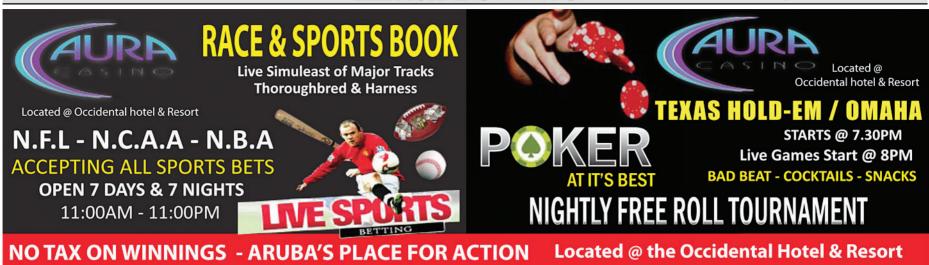


# Golf: Brilliant Mardan takes control at King's Cup

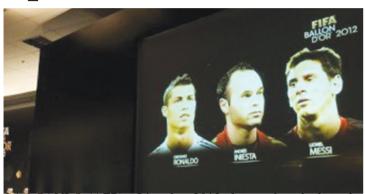


BANGKOK (AFP) - Asian Tour veteran Mardan Mamat of Singapore fired 10 birdies in a brilliant nine-under-par 63 on Thursday to earn a one-stroke lead in the first round of the King's Cup. Mardan, who stormed home with five birdies on the closing five holes, leads Supakorn Utaipat of Thailand and England's Chris Rodgers by one stroke at the Singha Park Khon Kaen Golf Club in northeastern Thailand. The 45-year-old's only blemish came with a par-three bogey on the 13th before he hit the birdie trail again. "It has been some time since I shot nine-under and obviously it's a very good score that I can be very proud of," said Mardan, who has won three times on the Asian Tour. Supakorn, 22, who only turned professional this year, was delighted with his encouraging start to the tournament. The \$500,000 King's Cup is making its return after a year's absence following floods in Thailand last year. Australia's Rick Kulacz signed for a 65 to take equal fourth place alongside Spain's Javi Colomo and Thai trio Arnond Vongvanij, Prom Meesawat and Udorn Duangdecha, who won in 2010. Thailand's Thaworn Wiratchant, currently second in the Asian Tour Order of Merit, is six shots off the pace.





# Football: Messi, Ronaldo, Iniesta up for Ballon d'Or



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Andres Iniesta were on Thursday shortlisted for this year's Ballon d'Or, football's world governing body FIFA and sponsors France Football magazine said.

Barcelona forward Messi, 25, has already won the title three times and the Argentine is again favourite to win the prize, which will be presented in Zurich on January 7 after votes from journalists, national team captains and coaches.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter unveiled the shortlist at a news conference in Sao Paulo.

"I won't say it's on a level with the Oscars -- but it's not far away," joked Blatter as the three names were revealed from a long-list of 23.

He also revealed that Spain's Vicente Del Bosque -who led the Spanish to Euro 2012 glory and made them the first side to win three back-to-back tournaments -- was in line for the best coach award.

He will be up against Real Madrid's Jose Mourinho and former Barcelona coach Pep Guardiola.

For women's player of the year, five-time Brazilian champion Marta goes up against US pair Aby Wambach and Alex Morgan.

In normal circumstances, Ronaldo's haul of 46 goals in La Liga last season -- only surpassed by Messi's astonishing 50 -- would likely have placed him in pole position, but Messi's record-breaking feats have left the Portuguese talisman in his shadow.

Former Brazil star Ronaldo, twice an award-winner, told reporters he believed that "it's between Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo -- Messi being just a notch ahead of Cristiano" in his view.

Blatter, meanwhile, said it was normal that generally players plying their trade in Europe would gain the limelight, though Neymar of Brazil's Santos had been on a first list.

South Americans have won the award -- but overwhelmingly have been playing in Europe, usually in Spain.

"Europe is the benchmark of football," said Blatter. "So it's difficult for someone not playing in Europe to be on the list."

While Messi suffered heartache in being denied in La Liga by Real Madrid and in the Champions League semifinals by Chelsea, Ronaldo, title winner with Real, guided Portugal to the Euro 2012 semi-finals before losing on penalties to Iniesta's Spain.

Iniesta was voted the tournament's best player and edged out Xavi, who has three times finished the final poll in third spot.

Other categories see Neymar vye with Colombian striker Radamel Falcao and Slovakia's Miroslav Stoch for the best goal award while best coach of a women's team will come from Bruno Bini (France), Norio Sasaki (Japan) and Pia Sundhage (Sweden).

# Tennis: Serena Williams is WTA Player of the Year

PARIS (AFP) - Serena Williams has been named WTA Tour Player of the Year for the fourth time after winning Wimbledon, the US Open and Olympic gold in a stunning summer of success.

The American started the year poorly amid concerns over her fitness and motivation and lost in the fourth round of the Australian Open.

But back-to-back tournament wins in Charleston and Madrid in April and May marked a remarkable change in fortune for her.

Williams, who turned 31 in September, went on to win 48 of 50 matches, landing Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon and the US Open and taking gold in London where she defeated Maria Sharapova 6-0, 6-1 in the final.

She then finished the year in fitting style by winning the WTA Tour Championships in Istanbul although she remained ranked third in the world behind Victoria Azarenka and Sharapova.

After her win in Turkey she said: "I've always said if I'm



playing well and doing everything right, it's really difficult to beat me.

Williams was previously honoured with the WTA award in in 2002, 2008 and 2009.

In the 36-year history of the Player Of The Year award, Williams is one of only three players to win it more than twice, alongside eight-time winner Steffi Graf and seventime winner Martina Navratilova.

Four players have won the award twice - Monica Seles, Lindsay Davenport, Justine Henin and Kim Clijsters.



Escanear para las Zonas



Olvídese de las elevadas tarifas Compre su acceso de Wi-Fi en línea o en cualquier Teleshop

